

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF AUTHORIZED JUDGESHIPS IN U.S. COURTS OF APPEALS

(ARRANGED BY CIRCUIT)

THIS SECTION PROVIDES DATES AND LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY FOR ESTABLISHMENT, REALIGNMENT, AND CREATION OF ADDITIONAL JUDGESHIPS FOR THE U.S. COURTS OF APPEALS.

INFORMATION IN THIS SECTION IS BASED ON THE 1972 SENATE REPORT ON THE LEGISLATIVE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT COURTS OF APPEALS AND THE JUDGES WHO SERVED DURING THE PERIOD 1801 THROUGH MAY 1972 AND U.S. STATUTES AT LARGE.

District of Columbia

- 1893 Three judgeships created. – Act of February 9, 1893, 27 STAT. 434.
- 1930 Two additional judgeships created. – Act of June 19, 1930, 46 STAT. 785.
- 1938 One additional judgeship created. – Act of May 31, 1938, 52 STAT. 584.
- 1949 Three additional judgeships created. – Act of August 3, 1949, 63 STAT. 493.
- 1978 Two additional judgeships created. – Act of October 20, 1978, 92 STAT. 1629.
- 1984 One additional judgeship created. – Act of July 10, 1984, 98 STAT. 333.
- 2008 One judgeship was transferred to the Ninth Circuit - Act of January 7, 2008, 121 STAT. 2543

Total Judgeships - 11

First Circuit

- 1801 Three circuit judgeships created. – Act of February 13, 1801, 2 STAT. 89.
- 1802 Act of February 13, 1801 repealed. Circuit judgeships abolished. – Act of April 29, 1802, 2 STAT. 156.
- 1869 One circuit judgeship created. – Act of April 10, 1869, 16 STAT. 44.
- 1891 Circuit Court of Appeals established. One additional judgeship created. – Act of March 3, 1891, 26 STAT. 826.
- 1905 One additional judgeship created. – Act of January 21, 1905, 33 STAT. 611.
- 1978 One additional judgeship created. – Act of October 20, 1978, 92 STAT. 1629.
- 1984 Two additional judgeships created. – Act of July 10, 1984, 98 STAT. 333.
- Total Judgeships - 6

Second Circuit

- 1801 Three circuit judgeships created. – Act of February 13, 1801, 2 STAT. 89.
- 1802 Act of February 13, 1801 repealed. Circuit judgeships abolished. – Act of April 29, 1802, 2 STAT. 156.
- 1869 One circuit judgeship created. – Act of April 10, 1869, 16 STAT. 44.
- 1887 One additional judgeship created. – Act of March 3, 1887, 24 STAT. 492.
- 1891 Circuit Court of Appeals established. One additional judgeship created. – Act of March 3, 1891, 26 STAT. 826.
- 1902 One additional judgeship created. – Act of April 17, 1902, 32 STAT. 106.
- 1929 One additional judgeship created. – Act of January 17, 1929, 45 STAT. 1081.
- 1938 One additional judgeship created. – Act of May 31, 1938, 52 STAT. 584.
- 1961 Three additional judgeships created. – Act of May 19, 1961, 75 STAT. 80.
- 1978 Two additional judgeships created. – Act of October 20, 1978, 92 STAT. 1629.
- 1984 Two additional judgeships created. – Act of July 10, 1984, 98 STAT. 333.
- Total Judgeships - 13

Third Circuit

- 1801 Three circuit judgeships created. – Act of February 13, 1801, 2 STAT. 89.
- 1802 Act of February 13, 1801 repealed. Circuit judgeships abolished. – Act of April 29, 1802, 2 STAT. 156.
- 1869 One circuit judgeship created. – Act of April 10, 1869, 16 STAT. 44.
- 1891 Circuit Court of Appeals established. One additional judgeship created. – Act of March 3, 1891, 26 STAT. 826.
- 1899 One additional judgeship created. – Act of February 23, 1899, 30 STAT. 846.
- 1930 One additional judgeship created. – Act of June 10, 1930, 46 STAT. 538.
- 1936 One temporary judgeship created. – Act of June 24, 1936, 49 STAT. 1903.
- 1938 Temporary judgeship made permanent. – Act of May 31, 1938, 52 STAT. 584.
- 1944 One additional judgeship created. – Act of December 7, 1944, 58 STAT. 796.
- 1949 One additional judgeship created. – Act of August 3, 1949, 63 STAT. 493.
- 1961 One additional judgeship created. – Act of May 19, 1961, 75 STAT. 80.
- 1968 One additional judgeship created. – Act of June 18, 1968, 82 STAT. 184.
- 1978 One additional judgeship created. – Act of October 20, 1978, 92 STAT. 1629.
- 1984 Two additional judgeships created. – Act of July 10, 1984, 98 STAT. 333.
- 1990 Two additional judgeships created. – Act of December 1, 1990, 104 STAT. 5089.
- Total Judgeships - 14

Fourth Circuit

- 1801 Three circuit judgeships created. – Act of February 13, 1801, 2 STAT. 89.
- 1802 Act of February 13, 1801 repealed. Circuit judgeships abolished. – Act of April 29, 1802, 2 STAT. 156.
- 1869 One circuit judgeship created. – Act of April 10, 1869, 16 STAT. 44.
- 1891 Circuit Court of Appeals established. One additional judgeship created. – Act of March 3, 1891, 26 STAT. 826.
- 1922 One additional judgeship created. – Act of September 14, 1922, 42 STAT. 837.
- 1961 Two additional judgeships created. – Act of May 19, 1961, 75 STAT. 80.
- 1966 Two additional judgeships created. – Act of March 18, 1966, 80 STAT. 75.
- 1978 Three additional judgeships created. – Act of October 20, 1978, 92 STAT. 1629.
- 1984 One additional judgeship created. – Act of July 10, 1984, 98 STAT. 333.
- 1990 Four additional judgeships created. – Act of December 1, 1990, 104 STAT. 5089.
- Total Judgeships - 15

Fifth Circuit

- 1801 Three circuit judgeships created. – Act of February 13, 1801, 2 STAT. 89.
- 1802 Act of February 13, 1801 repealed. Circuit judgeships abolished. – Act of April 29, 1802, 2 STAT. 156.
- 1869 One circuit judgeship created. – Act of April 10, 1869, 16 STAT. 44.
- 1891 Circuit Court of Appeals established. One additional judgeship created. – Act of March 3, 1891, 26 STAT. 826.
- 1899 One additional judgeship created. – Act of January 25, 1899, 30 STAT. 803.
- 1930 One additional judgeship created. – Act of June 10, 1930, 46 STAT. 538.
- 1938 One additional judgeship created. – Act of May 31, 1938, 52 STAT. 584.
- 1942 One additional judgeship created. – Act of December 14, 1942, 56 STAT. 1050.
- 1954 One additional judgeship created. – Act of February 10, 1954, 68 STAT. 8.
- 1961 Two additional judgeships created. – Act of May 19, 1961, 75 STAT. 80.
- 1966 Four additional temporary judgeships created. – Act of March 18, 1966, 80 STAT. 75.
- 1968 The four temporary positions created in 1966 were made permanent and two additional judgeships created. – Act of June 18, 1968, 82 STAT. 184.
- 1978 Eleven additional judgeships created. – Act of October 20, 1978, 92 STAT. 1629.
- 1980 Fifth Circuit reorganized into two circuits, the Fifth (with 14 judgeships) and the Eleventh (with 12 judgeships). – Act of October 14, 1980, 94 STAT. 1994.
- 1984 Two additional judgeships created. – Act of July 10, 1984, 98 STAT. 333.
- 1990 One additional judgeship created. – Act of December 1, 1990, 104 STAT. 5089.

Total Judgeships - 17

Sixth Circuit

- 1801 One circuit judgeship and two district judgeships (one each from Kentucky and Tennessee) created. – Act of February 13, 1801, 2 STAT. 89.
- 1802 Act of February 13, 1801 repealed. Circuit judgeships abolished. – Act of April 29, 1802, 2 STAT. 156.
- 1869 One circuit judgeship created. – Act of April 10, 1869, 16 STAT. 44.
- 1891 Circuit Court of Appeals established. One additional judgeship created. – Act of March 3, 1891, 26 STAT. 826.
- 1899 One additional judgeship created. – Act of January 25, 1899, 30 STAT. 803.
- 1928 One additional judgeship created. – Act of May 8, 1928, 45 STAT. 492.
- 1938 One additional judgeship created. – Act of May 31, 1938, 52 STAT. 584.
- 1940 One additional judgeship created. – Act of May 24, 1940, 54 STAT. 219.
- 1966 Two additional judgeships created. – Act of March 18, 1966, 80 STAT. 75.
- 1968 One additional judgeship created. – Act of June 18, 1968, 82 STAT. 184.
- 1978 Two additional judgeships created. – Act of October 20, 1978, 92 STAT. 1629.
- 1984 Four additional judgeships created. – Act of July 10, 1984, 98 STAT. 333.
- 1990 One additional judgeship created. – Act of December 1, 1990, 104 STAT. 5089.
- Total Judgeships - 16

Seventh Circuit

- 1869 One circuit judgeship created. – Act of April 10, 1869, 16 STAT. 44.
- 1891 Circuit Court of Appeals established. One additional judgeship created. – Act of March 3, 1891, 26 STAT. 826.
- 1895 One additional judgeship created. – Act of February 8, 1895, 28 STAT. 643.
- 1905 One additional judgeship created. – Act of March 3, 1905, 33 STAT. 992.
- 1938 One additional judgeship created. – Act of May 31, 1938, 52 STAT. 584.
- 1949 One additional judgeship created. – Act of August 3, 1949, 63 STAT. 493.
- 1961 One additional judgeship created. – Act of May 19, 1961, 75 STAT. 80.
- 1966 One additional judgeship created. – Act of March 18, 1966, 80 STAT. 75.
- 1978 One additional judgeship created. – Act of October 20, 1978, 92 STAT. 1629.
- 1984 Two additional judgeships created. – Act of July 10, 1984, 98 STAT. 333.

Total Judgeships - 11

Eighth Circuit

- 1869 One circuit judgeship created. – Act of April 10, 1869, 16 STAT. 44.
- 1891 Circuit Court of Appeals established. One additional judgeship created. – Act of March 3, 1891, 26 STAT. 826.
- 1894 One additional judgeship created. – Act of July 23, 1894, 28 STAT. 115.
- 1903 One additional judgeship created. – Act of January 31, 1903, 32 STAT. 791.
- 1925 Two additional judgeships created. – Act of March 3, 1925, 43 STAT. 1116.
- 1929 Eighth Circuit divided and the Tenth Circuit created. Of the six judgeships authorized for the former Eighth Circuit, four were assigned to the new Eighth Circuit and two were transferred to the Tenth Circuit. One additional judgeship for the Eighth Circuit created. – Act of February 28, 1929, 45 STAT. 1346.
- 1940 Two additional judgeships created. – Act of May 24, 1940, 54 STAT. 219.
- 1966 One additional judgeship created. – Act of March 18, 1966, 80 STAT. 75.
- 1978 One additional judgeship created. – Act of October 20, 1978, 92 STAT. 1629.
- 1984 One additional judgeship created. – Act of July 10, 1984, 98 STAT. 333.
- 1990 One additional judgeship created. – Act of December 1, 1990, 104 STAT. 5089.
- Total Judgeships - 11

Ninth Circuit

- 1869 One circuit judgeship created. – Act of April 10, 1869, 16 STAT. 44.
- 1891 Circuit Court of Appeals established. One additional judgeship created. – Act of March 3, 1891, 26 STAT. 826.
- 1895 One additional judgeship created. – Act of February 18, 1895, 28 STAT. 665.
- 1929 One additional judgeship created. – Act of March 1, 1929, 45 STAT. 1414.
- 1935 One additional judgeship created. – Act of August 2, 1935, 49 STAT. 508.
- 1937 Two additional judgeships created. – Act of April 14, 1937, 50 STAT. 64.
- 1954 Two additional judgeships created. – Act of February 10, 1954, 68 STAT. 8.
- 1968 Four additional judgeships created. – Act of June 18, 1968, 82 STAT. 184.
- 1978 Ten additional judgeships created. – Act of October 20, 1978, 92 STAT. 1629.
- 1984 Five additional judgeships created. – Act of July 10, 1984, 98 STAT. 333.
- Total Judgeships - 28

Tenth Circuit

- 1929 Four judgeships created, two of which were transferred from the Eighth Circuit when it was divided into the Eighth and Tenth Circuits. – Act of February 28, 1929, 45 STAT. 1346.
- 1949 One additional judgeship created. – Act of August 3, 1949, 63 STAT. 493.
- 1961 One additional judgeship created. – Act of May 19, 1961, 75 STAT. 80.
- 1968 One additional judgeship created. – Act of June 18, 1968, 82 STAT. 184.
- 1978 One additional judgeship created. – Act of October 20, 1978, 92 STAT. 1629.
- 1984 Two additional judgeships created. – Act of July 10, 1984, 98 STAT. 333.
- 1990 Two additional judgeships created. – Act of December 1, 1990, 104 STAT. 5089.
- Total Judgeships - 12

Eleventh Circuit

1980 Twelve circuit judgeships created when the Fifth Circuit was reorganized into a new Fifth and Eleventh Circuit, and the judgeships transferred from the old Fifth Circuit. – Act of October 14, 1980, 94 STAT. 1994.

Total Judgeships - 12

Federal Circuit

1982 Federal Circuit consisting of all Federal judicial districts. Circuit court with 12 judgeships. – Act of April 2, 1982, 96 STAT. 25.

Total Judgeships - 12